

separated by an interstitial liquid;

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a first compound comprising said active agent encapsulated within said vesicles, said active agent being subject to chemical degradation; and

a second compound encapsulated within said vesicles, said second compound being an inhibitor of the chemical degradation of said active agent, said inhibitor acting chemically to prevent the chemical degradation, and being present within said vesicles in an amount sufficient to inhibit degradation of said active agent.

D2
33. (Amended) A method for improving the stability of an encapsulated active agent which is subject to chemical degradation, comprising the steps of:

preparing a liquid crystal lamellar phase comprising at least one surfactant, at least one active agent subject to chemical degradation and at least one inhibitor of said chemical degradation which acts chemically to prevent said chemical degradation; and

subjecting said liquid crystal lamellar phase to shear, to obtain thereby a plurality of multilamellar vesicles in the form of a regular stack of concentric bi-layers comprising at least one surfactant, said regular stack of concentric bi-layers extending from each vesicle core to periphery, and being separated by an interstitial liquid, said vesicles

D2

containing therein said active agent and said inhibitor.

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35. (Amended) A stabilized enzyme composition, comprising:

a plurality of multilamellar vesicles in the form of a regular stack of concentric bi-layers comprising at least one surfactant, said regular stack of concentric bi-layers extending from each vesicle core to periphery, and being separated by an interstitial liquid;

at least one enzyme encapsulated within said vesicles which is subject to degradation by chemical reaction; and

an inhibitor of the degradation by chemical reaction of said at least one enzyme present within said vesicles in an amount sufficient to inhibit degradation of said at least one enzyme,

said vesicles being obtained by preparing a preparing a liquid crystal lamellar phase comprising at least one surfactant, at least one active agent subject to chemical degradation and at least one inhibitor of said chemical degradation; and

subjecting said liquid crystal lamellar phase to shear to obtain said vesicles containing said active agent and said inhibitor therein.

36. (Amended) The composition according to claim 35, wherein said agent for inhibiting degradation of said enzyme

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cont

is a known stabilizing agent for stabilizing proteins.

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40. (Amended) A composition for stabilization of an active agent, comprising:

a plurality of multilamellar vesicles in the form of a regular stack of concentric bi-layers comprising at least one surfactant, said regular stack of concentric bi-layers extending from each vesicle core to periphery, and being separated by an interstitial liquid;

a first compound comprising said active agent encapsulated within said vesicles, said active agent being subject to chemical degradation; and

a second compound encapsulated within said vesicles, said second compound being an inhibitor of the chemical degradation of said active agent which acts chemically to prevent said chemical degradation, and being present within said vesicles in an amount sufficient to inhibit degradation of said active agent.

41. (Amended) A method for improving the efficacy of a stabilizing agent for an active agent, comprising the steps of:

preparing a liquid crystal lamellar phase comprising at least one surfactant, at least one active agent subject to chemical degradation and at least one inhibitor of said chemical degradation which acts chemically to prevent said

chemical degradation; and

subjecting said liquid crystal lamellar phase to shear, to obtain thereby a plurality of multilamellar vesicles in the form of a regular stack of concentric bi-layers comprising at least one surfactant, said bi-layers extending from each vesicle core to periphery, and being separated by an interstitial liquid, said vesicles containing therein said active agent and said inhibitor.

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